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All this is told by Lieutenant Sargent in an interesting and especially perspicuous manner. What may be called the modern military criticism, *i. e.*, that which the reader may compare to modern examples, often within his own experience, dates only from the present generation. Jomini, though we all go back to him with a keener sense of enlightenment, appeals rather to the soldier than to the civilian; but out of the modern critic's book any intelligent reader may, without effort, grasp the salient points of a military situation. Turgid criticism preceding Lloyd arose from turgid ideas. Lloyd was the first to see and tell why Frederick accomplished his astounding results. Jomini's diagrams first enunciated what Napoleon had evolved from the deeds of his predecessors—the modern art of war. Since Jomini, military criticism has grown to appeal more directly to the civilian. Just as nowadays a layman may better understand the law applicable to his own peculiar case than in the days of Coke, so may he better comprehend the underlying motives of this or that manœuvre on a strategic or tactical field, than a century ago.

Lieutenant Sargent is one of the most interesting of our modern military critics; and, recognizing that no single chapter can do a campaign justice, he is happy in choosing to devote each of his volumes to a single campaign.

Marengo has been so fully discussed heretofore that it is no detraction from this work to say that there is perhaps small room for novel ideas upon the subject; but the author's presentation of the events which led up to the battle and of the battle itself shows a good sense of proportion, keen appreciation of the value of facts, and an agreeable, easy style. Future volumes will be warmly welcomed.

THEODORE AYRAULT DODGE.

The Life of Francis Place; 1771–1854. By GRAHAM WALLAS, M.A. (New York, London and Bombay: Longmans, Green and Co. 1898. Pp. x, 415.)

THE special value of Mr. Wallas's *Life of Francis Place* is at once obvious to students of English constitutional and party history of the period between the French Revolution and the abolition of the Corn Laws. Biographies and volumes of memoirs and letters coming within these sixty years have been published in large numbers during the last twenty-five years. First-hand material of this kind has been constantly growing in volume; but up to the present time there has been no authoritative book covering that part of the movement for constitutional reform with which Francis Place was so conspicuously identified. Place was never of the House of Commons. Although he began life as a working tailor, quite early in his career he had a shop of his own, and was exceedingly prosperous. In the days of the unreformed Parliament, it would have been easy for a man of his wealth to have bought a seat in the House of Commons, as was done by Hume, Ricardo, Romilly and other men who were on the popular side in the Reform movement. Place never availed himself of this opportunity; yet no man, in or out of Parliament,

was more actively concerned in politics than he. His life was largely given up to politics. It was exclusively so from about his forty-sixth year. He was associated with the movement for the repeal of the Combination Laws; from 1807 to 1832 with the movement for the first Reform Bill; later on with the movements for poor-law reform and municipal reform; with the Chartist agitation; with the movement for the repeal of the taxes on newspapers; and finally with the agitation for the repeal of the Corn Laws.

In all these movements, Place was active as an organizer; often as a lobbyist; and continuously as an advocate of reform in any newspaper whose editor would print his letters. New light is thrown by Mr. Wallas's book on the agitation for the repeal of the Combination Laws, and also on the beginnings of the system of elementary education in England; for among his numerous activities, Place took a foremost part in the establishment of the British and Foreign Schools Society, an institution which still exists, and which between 1808 and the Forster Education Act of 1870 did so much good work in promoting unsectarian elementary education. But more than all, Mr. Wallas's book is valuable for that part of it that covers the closing days of the long movement for the first Parliamentary Reform Act. It would have been welcome to students if only for these two chapters. For some years past, there has been no lack of information concerning the ministerial and Parliamentary aspects of the closing year of an agitation for Reform which can be traced back to the time of the Tudors—concerning the fortunes of the struggle, after the first Reform Bill had been introduced by Lord John Russell, had passed the House of Commons, and had been rejected by the House of Lords. The Whig and official side can be traced in detail in Le Marchant's *Life of Althorp*; in Walpole's *Life of Lord John Russell*; in Brougham's *Correspondence*; and from day to day, almost from hour to hour, in Earl Grey's *Correspondence with Princess Lieven*. The Tory side is to be found in Jennings's *Memoirs and Correspondence of Croker*, and in the *Wellington Civil Correspondence*. The part played by William IV. can be followed in his *Letters to Earl Grey*. The demagogic side of the struggle from the beginning of the century is told in Huish's *Life of Hunt* and in the *Memoirs of Cartwright*. But hitherto there has been a lack of first-hand information as to what was doing in the constituencies, especially as to what was doing in London, during the period of tension and crisis which intervened from the 1st of March, 1831, when Lord John Russell introduced his bill, until the second Reform bill was accepted by the House of Lords on June 4, 1832.

The *Life of Place* fills this gap, and forms as important a contribution to the literature of the great constitutional crisis as Grey's *Letters to Princess Lieven*, or the *Letters of William IV. to Grey*. It is not possible here to recall, however briefly, the events of that critical period. But it may be stated that Place's story of them brings out two important facts, more or less new. It shows in the first place how greatly and how pleasantly the extent of the reform proposed in Lord John Russell's bill sur-

prised Place, and the cooler heads among the reformers out of Parliament—how greatly it surprised those who, while actively and energetically on the popular side, had no sympathy with Hunt, and with the reception which Hunt gave to the bill in the House of Commons. Place obtained his first news of the bill from a reporter of the *Morning Chronicle*. "It was so very much beyond anything that I had expected," he wrote, "that had it been told me by a person unused to proceedings in the House, I should have supposed that he had made a mistake." In the second place, the narrative quoted by Mr. Wallas from Place's papers show how perilously near to revolution England came, after Earl Grey had resigned. Place's story leaves the impression that had the Duke of Wellington taken office, there must inevitably have been collisions between the troops and the people.

From a student's point of view, Mr. Wallas has handled admirably the enormous mass of material at his disposal. Wherever possible he has allowed Place to tell his own story, and very largely he leaves it to the reader to form his own estimate of Place, and the singularly important, though unobtrusive part Place played in the history of English politics in the first half of the nineteenth century.

EDWARD PORRITT.

Kaiser Wilhelm I. VON ERICH MARCKS. (Leipzig: Duncker und Humblot. 1897. Pp. xiii, 370.)

If a historical biography is to be anything more than a mechanical mixture of biography and history, the biographer must of course establish the causal nexus between his hero and the times in which the hero figured. Marcks attacks this problem upon both its sides: he considers not only the influence which William exercised upon his times, but also the influence which the times exercised upon William. In studying his hero's character he not only utilizes the direct testimony of those who knew the prince, the king, the emperor; he also considers the formative forces of heredity, tradition and environment, and endeavors to trace the modifying influences exercised by persons and by events. In his attempt to determine William's share in events, he is not content to say that the king rendered such a decision or gave such a command; he tries to show who or what made the king act in that particular way. At every critical juncture he endeavors to get inside of William's mind and find out what was going on there. Where the evidence is inconclusive and where there is no evidence, he falls back upon inferences from character. The historical and the biographical elements in the book are thus connected by a double bond: history is employed to account for William's character and explain its development, and the biographic result—the complete picture of William's views, sentiments and aspirations—is used to throw new light upon the history of his reign.

In its central purpose the book is a study in psychology, and to this purpose the history of the times and the story of the visible life are both sub-